

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'
MILLENNIAL STAR

ESTABLISHED IN 1840



From a painting by David Jagger

Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell

Welcome Home, Chief!
(See articles pages 338 and 362)

A VISIT WITH THE LAST OF THE WITNESSES

By ELDER JAMES H. MOYLE

UNITED STATES COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS

I WAS always deeply interested in the divinity of the Book of Mormon, and had been on a mission to the Southern States before I entered the University of Michigan. During my three years' residence at the University I learned that David Whitmer was still living and in good health. I concluded to visit him on my way home to Salt Lake City. I graduated the latter part of June, 1885, and arrived in Richmond, Missouri, early in July.

Richmond is a small, rural town. I talked with the hack driver (that is what they called them) who took me to the hotel, and learned from him that David Whitmer was a highly respected citizen of the city. I likewise questioned the clerk of the hotel, with the same results. I made such inquiry as I could concerning him during my visit of part of a day.



James H. Moyle

Relates for the "Star" his conversation with David Whitmer.

I found David Whitmer seated under a fruit tree in front of his home, which was located near the street and surrounded by an orchard. There was an old-fashioned fence in front of the property and the residence consisted of a very plain, two-story, timber building which I concluded consisted of two rooms downstairs and two or more upstairs. I did not go in or around the house to see what was in the rear, but it was a simple, humble structure, without porch or outside adornment except that it was prob-

ably painted. The front yard, as I remember, had nothing but mother earth there, beaten with use. I do not recall any walk to the front door or any flower beds. There might have been a few flowers.

I understood that Mr. Whitmer had been bothered a good deal with curiosity seekers. To make him feel more at home with me I presented him with an appropriate book (I have forgotten now just what it was). I said that I had just graduated as a law student and was on my way home, and was extremely anxious to obtain from him whatever he would be good enough to tell me about the Book of Mormon, the plates from which it was translated and his testimony concerning the same which he had given to the world.

I entered in a little diary which I kept the mere fact that I had visited David Whitmer and that he had verified all that had been published to the world concerning the Book of Mormon by him in his testimony, and that was about all. In making that visit I had no thought of anything but my personal knowledge and did not contemplate publishing anything concerning it—it was purely an

individual matter with me at the time. I told my friends about it and spoke of it in the ward, but at that time it seemed to be common knowledge. David Whitmer died about three years after I saw him. My memory of the main facts is perfectly clear. I have always enjoyed good health, never better than at the present.

David Whitmer was a man above medium height, slender rather than stout and was in his shirt-sleeves. His hair was white, as was his long, patriarchal beard. As I remember, he was a man of fairly intellectual appearance, for the plain citizen that he was, and of good countenance. I am quite sure he was a serious-minded man.

This Treatise

In each copy of the Book of Mormon appears a testimony of Three Witnesses—Oliver Cowdery, David Whitmer and Martin Harris—in which they affirm that an angel showed them the gold plates from which the Book was translated by Joseph Smith. All three left the Church after writing that testimony. Yet, none ever denied its claims. David Whitmer, unlike the other two, never rejoined the Church. He was the last surviving Witness, dying January 22, 1888.

The only known living Latter-day Saint who has interviewed David Whitmer concerning his testimony is Elder James H. Moyle. While visiting in London during the past three weeks, Elder Moyle, United States Commissioner of Customs, took time enough from his busy routine to prepare this article especially for the *Millennial Star*. He sails June 4 for his home in Washington, D.C., where he is closely associated with President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

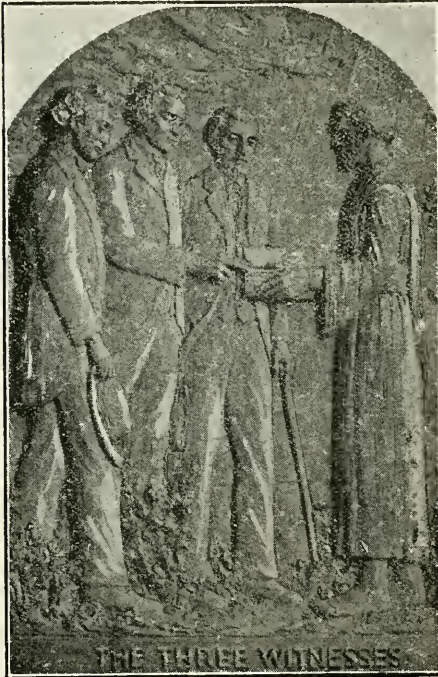
I told him that I had been born in the Church, my mother also; that my father had joined the Church when he was a boy in his teens; that I had grown up believing implicitly in the Book of Mormon; that I was about to commence life's activities as he was getting ready to lay them down, and pleaded with him to tell me the truth—not to permit me to go through life believing in a falsehood—that meant so much to me. I told him that he knew the facts and urged him to tell me just what had happened in connection with the introduction of the Book of Mormon. I seemed to gain his confidence and felt free to ask him questions, and in fact did everything that I could think of that would bring out the facts, particularly all of the circumstances and details of his seeing and hearing the Angel, seeing and handling the plates and where the interview with the Angel Moroni took place and the conditions and circumstances surrounding the same.

He said that they (Joseph Smith, Oliver Cowdery, David Whitmer and Martin Harris) were out in the

primitive woods in Western New York; that there was nothing between them and the Angel except a log that had fallen in the forest; that it was in the broad daylight with nothing to prevent either hearing or seeing all that took place. He then repeated to me that he did see and handle the plates; that he did see and hear the Angel and heard the declaration that the plates had been correctly translated; that there was absolutely nothing to prevent his having a full, clear view of it all. I remember very distinctly asking him if there was anything unnatural or unusual about the surroundings or the atmosphere. He answered that

question. I do not remember exactly the words he used, but he indicated that there was something of a haze or peculiarity about the atmosphere that surrounded them but nothing that would prevent his having a clear vision and knowledge of all that took place. He declared to me that the testimony which he had published to the world was true and that he had never denied any part of it.

I asked him why he had left the Church. He replied that he had never left the Church; that he had continued with the branch of the Church that was originally organized in Richmond and still presided over it. In answer to my questions, he said,



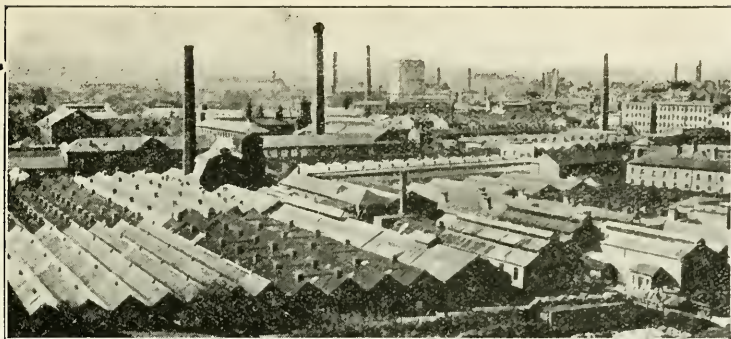
Plaque on Cumorah Monument

"He did see and hear the Angel . . ."

in an unqualified, emphatic way, that Joseph Smith was a Prophet of God, but had become a fallen prophet through the influence which Sidney Rigdon exercised over him; that he accepted everything that was revealed to the Prophet down to the year 1835, but rejected everything thereafter because he did not know whether it came from the Lord or from Sidney Rigdon. He manifestly had become embittered against Sidney Rigdon, due to his promotion to second place in the Church over men like himself who had been with the Prophet from the beginning and who had done so much for the Church. I then concluded, as I now believe, that jealousy and disappointment had soured his soul, but nothing could obliterate his testimony of the divinity of the Book of Mormon.

I asked him about the manuscript from which the Book of Mormon was published. He said that he had the original of the three copies that were made before the Book of Mormon was printed. I asked him if he would sell the manuscript. He said no. I then asked him if he wouldn't sell it at any price. He said no, that he would not part with it. He also said, pointing to his home, that when a cyclone struck Richmond a few years before every room in his house was destroyed except the one in which that manuscript was kept. He seemed to regard the manuscript sacredly. As he appeared to be a poor man, at least in very ordinary circumstances, I was greatly impressed by the fact that

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Kidderminster—The Carpet Weaving Town

INTRODUCING THE POETRY CONTEST WINNER

OVER strands of pearls of poetry, judges of the *Millennial Star*-M. I. A. Kidderminster Poetry Contest laboured for hours to select the winner. At the annual Mission Honour Day Exercises in Kidderminster Branch Hall Saturday, Sister Nancy E. Evans of Kidderminster Branch was awarded first prize. At her request, the award of free accommodations at the Conference was passed on to a friend. Honourable mention goes to Sisters Dorothy Spooner (Southwest London) and Maggie Mavin (Plymouth), Brothers Samuel Pears (Hucknall) and D. C. Avondale Kimberley (Bradford) and Mr. John Heginbottom (Hyde). The winning poem:

June Convention

By Nancy E. Evans

We will stand . . .
Representing the youth of this land—
At Kidderminster, in the country grand.
There, as brother to brother,
We shall greet one another,
With a mighty grip of the hand.

We will sing . . .
To the heavens our voices we'll raise—
Singing "Forward Zion!" thro' endless days,
M Men! Gleaners!—sing a song
As we proudly march along
To the Town Hall, our meeting place.

We will pray . . .
Thank our Father in Heaven each day—
For this Gath'ring of Israel, that we all may
Feel the spirit of Youth
Through the Gospel of Truth,
Restored in this latter day!

Sister Evans' poem breathes the spirit of a native of Kidderminster, the world's carpet weaving centre and venue of the Mission M. I. A. Conference. Writing poetry has been her hobby "ever since I was a little girl." Nine and one-half years ago Nancy E. Evans was not a Latter-day Saint. One day two glaziers repaired a window in her office. They invited her to visit their Mormon services. Eighteen months later this then Catholic girl gathered up courage enough to attend. Since that Sunday she has "never missed." She was baptized into the Church May 27, 1928. Eight years later—exactly to the day—she received the news of her success in the *Star* poetry contest. Today she is manager of Kidderminster's Opera House, a faithful member of Kidderminster Branch, presided over by Brother Robert L. Dunn, who, with his son, Lorenzo, repaired a window in her office nine and one-half years ago.

AROUND SCOUT FIRESIDES IN BRITAIN

By Elder Ralph W. Hardy

COME with us on a tour of Boy Scout camps in Great Britain—birthplace of the Scout movement and home of the Chief Scout of the World—Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell!

Our journey will be one of reminiscences, memories of a year of travelling in our little, almost decrepit, but faithful motorcar through England, Scotland and Wales—and then across the stormy Irish Sea to the Emerald Isle. Since June, 17, 1935, to be exact, two of us elders of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints have been telling Britons, and particularly British Boy Scouts, the story of the American Indian.

Through the Camps

For the past year, two Latter-day Saint travelling elders have been presenting a Red Indian programme before Boy Scouts, and others, in Great Britain. A description of the demonstration was previously published in the *Star* (July 25, 1935), but here is an account describing some of the receptions they have been accorded.

Elder Hardy is a Life Scout and his travelling companion, Elder David C. Thomas (who succeeded Elder J. Ridge Hicks following the latter's release) is an Eagle Scout. In this brief narration, Elder Hardy takes you with them into some of Britain's most interesting Scout camps.

With beaded ornaments and native dress, pottery and tribal legends and ceremonies, we have been giving to them an insight into the life of the Redman. We have told them of his origin, as divinely revealed through the Book of Mormon—that the ancestors of the Red Indian came from Jerusalem about two millenniums before Columbus discovered America in 1492. It was the forbears of these same Redmen to whom the Master referred when He said, "And other sheep I have, which are not of this fold," and whom He once visited.

In a year's time we have travelled 8,000 miles—a distance greater than that from London to Capetown—in giving our demonstration and story before 2,000 Scouts and Scouters in 24 different troops, in addition to thousands of other listeners at clubs, schools and religious gatherings. Everywhere we are introduced as Latter-day Saint missionaries, or as fellow Scouts from Salt Lake City.

Space will not permit us to recount all of our experiences, but we might relate some of the recent highlights that are typical of the receptions we have been accorded.

One of the first Scout gatherings we visited was at York Woods in the midlands. Last summer, in this breeze-cooled amphitheatre of Nature, we gave our demonstration before 350 Boy Scouts of Birmingham District. It was a beautiful evening under the moon before those open-eyed, khaki-garbed youths. Except for a low, rustling symphony of leaves, all was quiet when we began, but when we finished there was a burst of "Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!" followed by an organized applause by a cheer leader.

We are often offered cigarettes and tea, but we always cor-

dially refuse, explaining that the Latter-day Saint Word of Wisdom proscribes the use of tea, coffee, tobacco and liquor.

Another interesting visit was enjoyed before the Methodist Troop in Littleborough, a diminutive town of cotton and woolen mills delightfully situated in a fertile valley at the foot of Blackstone, where quarries and an old road supposed to be traceable to Roman origin are located. The Indian Prayer which we recite appealed to these Lancashire Scouts. The Prayer goes: "May the Great Spirit keep our hearts pure, our minds clean and our bodies very, very strong." All Scouts followed our lead in pounding on their chests with clenched fists as the last three words were recited.

From Scoutmaster Jack Butterworth of this troop we later received a letter of thanks, which reads, in part:

That we enjoyed your visit at the time you would well be able to see for yourself. I feel that the inspiration of it will live on and be a very happy memory for a long time. One thing at least will help. We have decided to make the Indian Prayer you taught us our group prayer.



Vaux Own Troop Scouts At Camp

"We visited the first troop in the world to be inspected by the Chief Scout."

Perhaps the most interesting visit of our odyssey was a stop at Sunderland, a shipping and marketing city on England's north-east coast. There we were invited to present our demonstration before Vaux Own Troop, the first Scout troop in the world to be inspected by the Chief Scout. Lord Baden-Powell first visited this troop in 1908, the year the Scout movement began. There was a thrill that came to us as we entered the building, located on the banks of the River Wear. Once inside, we were at home. About the walls of the neat, well-ordered room were pictures of "The Chief", of Scout jamborees and of visits of Scout officials to Vaux Own.

We placed about the room our exhibit of Indian trinkets and costumes, in addition to pictures of Salt Lake City and the West. Scouts sat on the floor in campfire style to watch—and to listen. Elder David C. Thomas, wearing the gaudy Kachina headdress of

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THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 1936

EDITORIAL

JOYS AT KIDDERMINSTER

LAST June a man was going home to lunch when he saw some people alighting from buses and coming from the station who were strangers in Kidderminster. As he went on his way a number of thoughts passed through his mind, and, reaching home, he asked his wife, "Who are these happy people who are coming to town?" Her answer was, "They are those terrible Mormons." "I don't care who they are," he replied, "They are the happiest looking people I have seen." Last week this man and his wife were baptized members of the Church in the Kidderminster Branch Chapel.

When the young Joseph Smith wrote those striking words, "Adam fell that man might be; and men are that they might have joy," while translating the Book of Mormon, he was permitted to sound a high, new note of life philosophy. The Latter-day Saints believe the end of living to be joy, and strive to attain that day by day.

The June Convention at Whitsuntide had a thousand joys.

There was the joy of frugality. Of the hundreds who came, many were there because of what they had saved—not shillings, but halfpennies, actually. But there is a joy in saving; otherwise there would be no misers.

They have joy in anticipation. For twelve months many have looked forward to this delightful visit. The pleasure of hope is one of the vital forces.

There was the joy of effort. Three people left Preston at 8:00 o'clock Friday night on bicycles, and, with an hour's rest twice in the journey, rode into Kidderminster at noon Saturday—113 miles. One girl from Newcastle District rode 240 miles on her bicycle. They came from Cardiff, Plymouth and Brighton. They came from Edinburgh and from Glasgow. They came from the counties between, and they crossed the channel from Dublin and Belfast.

They had the joy of meeting and making friends. Friendship broadens and sweetens and enriches living.

The Latter-day Saints in Great Britain have been a scattered people, living generally in small branches with a limited number of friends of their own faith. Yet they have held on to the truth and the community of the saints by faith, and against the social pressure, which, in the cases of some who attended the Conference at Kidderminster, has amounted to the breaking of windows of their homes and the more painful indignity of personal abuse. To find friends with whom they can correspond and remember when they meet again from year to year enlarges their lives.

Then came the joy of an increased experience in spiritual things. Under the theme of the conference—"The Promise Is Unto You"—came stirring messages and instructions. One of

the happiest of these was the encouragement through a delightful lesson in drama for fathers and mothers to sit down with their children once a week in regular home night. This is a practice throughout the Church, and perhaps never in the history of the world has it been more needed—now when the whole social atmosphere is centrifugal from home, and entertainment has become one of the world's largest business enterprizes. The plan to meet once a week in the friendly circle of the hearthside where children are encouraged to express themselves in poetry, story and song is a wholesome contribution to civilization.—JOSEPH J. CANNON.

A POWERFUL FORCE*

ONE cannot be witness of the Kidderminster Conference without feeling that it is destined to be a powerful force in shaping the future of the Church in this great Empire. Several hundred—nearly a thousand, I was told—attended the three-day session this year, coming from several parts of England, from Scotland, Ireland and Wales. The presentations by the M. I. A. and the Primary were of high quality in a dramatic sense and excellent in their portrayal of the message of the Church particularly.

The testimony meeting held on Sunday, May 31 was an extraordinary meeting. The hall was packed, and the testimonies borne were of a character to remove any doubt of the power of the Church, while yet small in number of members, in the lives of the individuals and in the future of the Empire.

If these testimonies could be heard throughout Britain, they would change the lives of the people. I have never heard more fervent, more simple and sincere statements; the Spirit of God was there, powerfully.

In the days to come, when the righteous are chosen, many of these British saints will be given high honour and responsibility. All honour to them, so few in number among the millions of the Empire, and yet the few who will bring a glory to Britain beyond anything which her navies or her army can achieve.

May I pay my very sincere respects to the fine body of elders who are labouring in this rich field, among this covenant people. These elders have by their teachings and by the lives they have lived endeared themselves to the people whom they serve and are developing their own faith and characters powerfully.

When those great and dreadful days come of which the ancient and modern prophets have spoken, days which seem upon us now, the seeds being sown at Kidderminster now will have borne fruit very precious in the sight of the Lord.—ELMER G. PETERSON.

*This guest editorial was written for the *Millennial Star* by Elder Elmer G. Peterson, president of the Utah State Agricultural College at Logan, Utah who attended Kidderminster Conference. With his wife, Sister Phebe Nebeker Peterson, he is touring Europe this summer as an officer of America's Department of Agriculture, and has been a guest here of Britain's Department of Agriculture. For twenty years he has presided over the State College, which is endowed by the United States Government. There is one such school in each state of the Union. President Peterson is a member of Cache Stake High Council and is a teacher in the Sunday School.

THIS WEEK IN MORMON HISTORY

Through 23 Years Of Latter-day Saint Scouting

THE youth of a nation are the trustees of posterity.—BENJAMIN DISRAELI.

BY 1907 Lieutenant-General Robert Stephenson Smyth Baden-Powell was a man with a vast amount of adventure stored into his fifty years. He had served with a regiment of Hussars in India, Afghanistan and South Africa, had been stationed in such blood-curdling places as Zululand and was a veteran of the Boer War. His hobbies were pig-sticking, polo, fishing and big-game hunting. Then, too, he was a gifted writer and clever cartoonist.

"The Chief"

ADORNING the *Star* cover is a reproduction of the study in oils of the "Chief Scout" by David Jagger, English painter. The *Star* joins the Scouthood of Britain—and of all the world—in saluting Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell, who has recently returned to his London home after inspecting troops in South Africa. Before leaving for Africa last October, The Chief, now in his eightieth year, sent his greetings to Latter-day Saint Boy Scouts in Britain (*Star*, Oct. 31).

The Jagger painting was presented to Scouting's Founder in 1929 by the Scouts of the world, youths from many lands and climes each contributing about a penny toward the fund which provided this gift, among others, for their august leader.—W. J. A.

From his treasure chest of experiences, Lieutenant-General Baden-Powell drew out an idea, and put it into action at a camp of boys at Brownsea Island in England. The experiment was successful, and the following year—1908—he produced a booklet, *Scouting For Boys*, and a new youth movement, the Boy Scouts, had been born. Its purpose was to provide constructive and worthwhile leisure-time activities for boys. It aimed to make youth a savings bank for moral character and good citizenship.

Visiting in London a year later, a Chicago publisher searched hopelessly one foggy night for a certain address. A young lad approached him, and asked if he could be of any assistance. The publisher, Mr. William D. Boyce, nodded his head, and the little fellow replied, "Come with me, Sir." Whereupon he led the stranger to his desired place. The gentleman offered the boy a shilling. He refused, and

explained, "I am a Scout." Mr. Boyce immediately investigated the Boy Scouts, and in 1910,

with others, founded the Boy Scouts of America. As in Britain, the Scout movement in America expanded with prairie-fire rapidity.

The Scout programme soon attracted the attention of the Mutual Improvement Association of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. On the motion of the late President Anthony W. Ivins, then a member



of the General Superintendency of Y. M. M. I. A., the M. I. A. Scouts were officially recognized November 29, 1911, and Dr. John H. Taylor, now a member of the First Council of the Seventy, was later placed in charge of M. I. A. Scout activity. On May 21, 1913 a National Charter was issued to this ancillary organization of the Church by the National Council of Boy Scouts of America, and June 7—at June Conference—the first general Boy Scout gathering in the Church was held in Salt Lake City.

The beanstock-like growth of Scouting in the Church from the seeds sown in 1913 is indicative of how the ideals of this youth programme harmonize with Latter-day Saint ideals.

Today there are approximately 25,000 Latter-day Saint Boy Scouts spread over more than twenty countries. Indeed Latter-day Saint Scouts are contributing efficaciously to the influence



Imperial Headquarters photograph.

King Edward VIII (second from left) at Birkenhead Jamboree.

Mormon Scouts were among the hundreds gathered.

described by Sir Eric Drummond at the International Scout Conference in Austria in 1931:

The extraordinary development of the Boy Scout Movement throughout the world is a lasting encouragement to those of us who are doing what we can in other fields to bring about a better understanding, a greater charity, between the different peoples of the world.

No other religious group in the world has a more meritorious record in Scout work than that of the Latter-day Saints. Events of only the past year are tongues that testify to this fact. Visiting in Salt Lake City last February 16, Mr. Thomas J. Keane of New York City, Director of Senior Scouting in America, said:

World-wide Boy Scout activities attain their highest degree of excellence in Utah. . . .

President Heber J. Grant was invited by Boy Scouts of America to address the National Council of Executives (900 delegates) on "Scouting in the Church," at French Lick Springs, Indiana on March 15. In a



sermon at the recent General Conference of the Church in the Salt Lake Tabernacle, President Grant referred to his visit :

I rejoiced in being present at the recent meeting of the executives of the Boy Scouts, and it was marvellous the fine compliments that were paid to our people and to the executives who are members of our Church who are being employed in the different sections, working for the Boy Scout Movement, from New York to California. . . .

This Spring the Boy Scouts of America again honoured Elder George Albert Smith of the Council of Twelve Apostles, with an appointment on the advisory committee of America's Senior Scouting. Senior Scouting in the United States includes the Explorer Group, which is patterned after the Vanguard Department of the M. I. A. A letter received by Elder Smith from Dr. James E. West, America's Chief Scout Executive, dated September 10, 1934, reads, in part :

We are grateful for the permission extended in your very kind letter of August 8, 1934 to use your Church Programme in Scouting, and especially that phase of it which has to do with the programme of the Vanguards as a basis for our expanded programme in the Senior Division. . . .

Elder Smith's name appears on the first page of the *Handbook For Boys* of Boy Scouts of America, as a member of the National Executive Board. He is among the few distinguished men who have received the Scout "Silver Buffalo" award. Among other recipients are Lord Baden-Powell of Gilwell, His Majesty, King Edward VIII, Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh and President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Another Latter-day Saint leader in the Scout movement is Elder Oscar A. Kirkham, executive secretary of Y. M. M. I. A. He served as chief morale officer at the international Boy Scout jamboree at Birkenhead, England (see cut) and at Gedollo, Hungary, and was named last year to serve in the same capacity at America's Silver Jubilee anniversary celebration of Scouting.

In Britain, Latter-day Saint Scouting is in its infancy, but it is growing under the leadership of Brother Lewis H. Tarr, Mission Scout supervisor. Officially accepted into the National Scout Movement of Britain January 17, 1934, West Hartlepool Branch troop was the first group organized. Since then the number of Mormon troops in Britain has grown to 13, and today British Latter-day Saint youths enjoy a place among the 448,000 Scouts in the United Kingdom, the 2,500,000 Scouts in the world.

Scouting sculptures character while the clay is still pliable. In such craft Latter-day Saints will always take an interest. They will always take a lead.

Other Anniversaries This Week

June 4, 1837—The Prophet Joseph Smith called Apostle Heber C. Kimball to serve as one of the first missionaries to Great Britain.

June 6, 1840—The first group of British Saints to embark for America sailed from Liverpool aboard the *Britannia*, under the direction of John Moon. More than 150 sailing vessels, with a total of about 89,500 emigrating saints, left Britain for America between 1840 and 1868.

June 7, 1845—Apostle Wilford Woodruff obtained a copyright for the Doctrine and Covenants in Great Britain.

June 8, 1854—Apostle Franklin D. Richards succeeded Elder Samuel W. Richards as president of the British Mission and at the same time became first president of the European Mission. His letter of appointment authorized him "to preside over all the conferences of the British Isles and adjacent countries."

June 8-10, 1935—The first mission-wide M. I. A. conference in Britain was held at Kidderminster.

June 9, 1884—The old "cock pit" in Preston, where many of the early meetings of the Church in Britain were held, tumbled down.

June 10, 1875—The Young Men's Mutual Improvement Association of the Church was started by Elder Jnnius F. Wells under the direction of President Brigham Young.—WENDELL J. ASHTON.

AROUND SCOUT FIRESIDES IN BRITAIN

(Concluded from page 359)

the Hopi Indians and the fringed garb of the Indian medicine man, began with the "rain" dance, while I accompanied with tom-toms. Then I related the gripping story of the Mormon Pioneer, Sol Hale.

As we gathered up our material, several autograph books were held before us, and as we passed out of the hall, Elder Thomas and I were each given a cloth First Class badge as a souvenir of our first visit to the group whose claim is that of the first official Boy Scout troop in the world.

From Durham County we motored northward into Scotland. On Friday, May 15 we gave our pageant before one of the largest troops in Scotland's most populous city. There were 150 Scouts present when we appeared before Cardonald Troop of Glasgow. After the performance, we were invited to be guests of the District Commissioner at the Glasgow Council Scout Camp at Auchengillan, near historic Loch Lomond, over the weekend.

At Camp every minute was full of bliss. Before 450 fellow Scouts, many of them wearing their native kilts of the Highlands, we gave our demonstration at a Saturday evening campfire service. We remained with them for two nights, sleeping out under the stars on blankets spread on a mattress of grass.

The District Commissioner could not be too kind to us at Camp. As we were about to part, he handed us a letter of introduction to Chief J. S. Wilson, head of Britain's international Scout training school at Gilwell, near London. It will be interesting to visit this institution, which in the past has been attended by more than 14,000 Scoutmasters from nearly forty different countries.

Only a day or two after our Glasgow experience we motored northward to Aberdeen, the town of granite houses, and there lectured before another group of apple-cheeked Scots, this time at the Unitarian Church Troop in the Central Hall.

Our itinerary has included many other happy moments, too numerous to mention, with the Scouts of Britain. Each visit has left its indelible impression of the brotherhood that is so characteristic of this great youth movement the world over.

A VISIT WITH THE LAST OF THE WITNESSES

(Concluded from page 256)

he would not even talk about selling it and with the fact that he seemed to regard the care of the manuscript as being something of a sacred trust. Neither did he seek a reconciliation with the Church, although that would have inevitably increased his worldly comfort, and made him a highly honoured personage among Latter-day Saints.

President Joseph F. Smith had previously interviewed him and had seen the manuscript. He said to me that it was not the original but one of the other two copies.

NEWS OF THE CHURCH IN THE WORLD

Missionary quartette, the "Fire-side Four," have recently been honoured by clubs and radio stations in the vicinity of New York City. Excerpts from a letter of one of the members of the quartette (composed of Elders Marvin Bertoch, El Moin Kirkham, Merlin Fisher and Max B. Smith, with Elder Grant Cook as accompanist) read: "We are to sing before the Kiwanis Club in Rochester, New York on Wednesday. We have appointments on WHAM, the big National Broadcasting Company radio station, and on WHEC of the Columbia (international) system. . . . In Altoona, Pennsylvania, we sang and one of us spoke before the American Business Men's Club. At the close of the meeting the

club president thanked us and said to the members: 'I suggest that we all attend some of these meetings the Mormon Church is holding in the city. There is more to Mormonism than some of us think who have just read an unauthentic story or two.'

Professor W. Frank Bailey, principal of Garfield School of Granite District (near Salt Lake City), has been named by the First Presidency to succeed Elder Castle H. Murphy as president of the Hawaiian Mission. The new president, born July 2, 1892, served as a missionary in Hawaii 1914-19, supervising the Church schools at Laie (where the Temple is located) for more than three years.

OF CURRENT INTEREST

The Bible—From out of the debris-ridden ruins at Tell-el-Duweir, site of the biblical city of Lachish, are emerging new, tangible evidences of the validity of holy Scripture. Lachish was burnt by Joshua, destroyed by Nebuchadnezzar, the Babylonian, stormed by Sennacherib, the Assyrian. An expedition sponsored by Sir Charles Marston and Sir Henry Wellcome has recently uncovered these significant evidences there: Sinai alphabetic script, oldest alphabetical writing in the world, painted in red inside the lid of an incense burning vessel in a thirteenth century B. C. tomb—written evidence bearing on Old Testament times; 600 men skeletons in a rock tomb of the fourteenth century B. C., thought to be

relics of Sennacherib's siege; two more temples beneath the small temple discovered last year; a good-sized market of the Nebuchadnezzar period, with a palace and citadel; a seal inscribed "Helkiah the son of Maas"—Helkiah was the name of the father of scriptural King Zedekiah. Other evidences are described in London's *Daily Telegraph*, May 11. While these evidences were being extricated, Literary Superintendent J. Patten of Foreign Bible Society reported at its annual meeting that during the past year 11, 686,131 volumes of Scripture were circulated, an increase of 715,552 over the previous year's figures. Thirteen new versions were added to the Society's list of languages during the year (*Cavalcade*, May 9).

FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Releases — Honourably released June 4 were Elders Gordon D. Priestley, who has laboured in Sheffield and Norwich districts, to return to his Salt Lake City, Utah home; Preston Baker Hoopes, who has laboured in Newcastle, Birmingham and Leeds districts, to return to his Rexburg, Idaho home; Rex Bevan Blake, who has laboured in Leeds, Bristol and Birmingham districts, to return to his Provo, Utah home, and Gilbert Roderick Langton, who has laboured in Nottingham, Bristol and Birmingham districts, and as a member of the Mission M Men Quartette, to return to his Salt Lake City, Utah home.

Doings in the Districts: *Norwich*—

Superintendent Bert Martin was in charge of special Sunday School Mother's Day services in Norwich Branch Hall May 17. Children contributed recitations and songs, and mothers were presented with white carnations. Evening speakers were Elders Gordon D. Priestley and Claudius E. Stevenson, District President Alfred Burrell and Branch President Frederick Tuttle. The Day was commemorated on May 17 rather than on May 10 because of district conference on the latter date.

Elder Delbert N. Groom was honoured at a farewell social in Norwich Branch hall Thursday, May 21. Y. M. M. I. A. President Wilfred Burrell was in charge of the programme, and Branch President

Frederick Tuttle presented, in behalf of the branch, a carving set to Elder Groom, who returns shortly to his Rigby, Idaho home.

Newcastle — Branch Conference was held in West Hartlepool Branch Chapel Sunday, May 10, with a Mother's Day theme prevailing. Participants on the afternoon programme were Sisters Clara Allason and Ann M. Short, Brothers

William H. Allason and Stanley Short and Elder Clair M. Aldrich (talks), Sister Winifred Short (reading) and Sisters Elaine Short and Rowena Webster (musical numbers). Sister Marjorie Webster distributed flowers. Brother Stanley Short of the branch presidency conducted. Branch President William A. Allason conducted the evening meeting, speakers at which were Supervising El-

The M. I. A. Slogan

SINCE 1914 a slogan has been selected annually by the General Boards to serve as a keynote for M. I. A. activity during the coming season. The theme for 1936-37, as announced at the Mission M. I. A. Conference at Kidderminster Sunday, May 31, is taken from Doctrine and Covenants 121: 45: "Let virtue garnish thy thoughts unceasingly, then shall thy confidence wax strong in the presence of God."

That message was part of a heavenly revelation received by the Prophet Joseph Smith while bound in chains in dungeon-like Liberty Jail in Missouri 97 years ago (*Star*, March 19).

Kidderminster Conference will be brought to *Star* readers next week in pictures and story.

der Clair M. Aldrich, District President Frederick W. Oates and Elder John Henderson. A vocal duet was rendered by Sisters Short and Webster.

Mother's Day services were held in South Shields Branch hall Sunday, May 10. Brother Thomas R. Mann of the branch presidency conducted the afternoon meeting. Evening speakers were Branch President Charles M. Ellwood, Brothers Mann and George H. Fudge and Sisters Marjorie Ellwood and Rachel M. Jones. Sisters Myrtle and Lillian Foster sang a duet.

Branch President Charles M. Ellwood conducted branch conference in South Shields Branch hall Sunday, May 17. Sunday School scholars who took part on the afternoon programme were Sisters Marjorie Ellwood, Nora Ellwood, Lillian Foster, Gwen Ellwood, George Fudge Jr. and George Fudge Sr. Evening speakers were Supervising Elder Clair M. Aldrich, Elder Stanford Robinson and District President Frederick W. Oates. Sisters Myrtle and Lillian Foster sang a duet.

Hull—Gainsbrough Branch was honoured with the presence of Sisters Elizabeth Cornwall and Laura Dimler, travelling missionaries, during the latter part of April. They assisted at several socials, among them a delightful Sunday School party planned under the direction of Superintendent Ellen M. Cavagh.

Manchester—Roses subscribed for by Sister Emma Johnson of California, who also sent a letter of re-

membrance of her former visit to Oldham Branch at Mother's Day time, were distributed among mothers at special services in their honour in Oldham Branch Chapel Sunday, May 10. Sister Annie Eliza Boreham represented the branch mothers in her remarks on the Sunday School programme.

Manchester District M Men-Gleaner banquet was held in Oldham Branch hall Saturday, May 16. In the afternoon sporting events, Hyde M Men defeated Oldham, 68 points to 67. Gleaners were hostesses at the banquet, and Brother Dennis Grimshaw was toastmaster. Responses were given by Brother George E. Dale of Rochdale, Sister Marion Rothwell of Manchester and Brother Thomas H. Boothroyd of Hyde. Oldham Branch won the Achievement Award. Brother John Massey, district Y. M. M. I. A. supervisor, and Sister Sarah Kelsh, district Y. W. M. I. A. supervisor, planned the affair. District President William Gregson was guest of honour.

DEATH

OWENS—Long a faithful member of Burnley Branch, Sister Eleanor Owens, 35, daughter of Brother and Sister John E. Owens of Burnley Branch, passed away at her home April 24. Supervising Elder Spencer J. Klomp and Brother Willie Duckworth spoke at fun-

eral services in Burnley Branch Chapel Wednesday, April 29. Elder David Y. Rogers dedicated the grave in Burnley Cemetery. Services were conducted by Branch President John R. Moore. Memorial services were held in the Branch Chapel Sunday, May 3.

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